



ARENA REPORT



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First I'd like to apologize for last issue only being nine pages long. The biggest headache in doing a sheet is deadlines. It was no fault of K.C.'s as his car was stuck in Virginia and he had no way to fax me the column in time. Hopefully, it appears in this issue. In this issue you will find the survey on the back page. Please fill it out entirely and send it back. It means a free issue on your sub if you do. Thanks in advance. We also have three live reports. The main one from WCW and Lakeland on 10/5, a CWF card that was held in Tampa on 9/26 and an IWF card held in O-Town on 10/2. We have a special column from Jeff Siegel called "Strictly Business". I think you'll find it very thought provoking. Scott Hudson returns from Dallas with more news from the GWF and Georgia. Klon reappears during the day to give us his thoughts in "Under The Mushroom". And Marianne Ryan is back with another "Notes From The Parking Lot". Due to the survey, "Correspondent's Corner" will be slightly condensed this issue but they'll both be back to normal next go around.

Next issue will be cover dated 10/21 and will include a live report from Orlando and the WWF which takes place on the cover date of this issue, 10/7. We'll also have a live report from Winter Haven and the IWF on 10/17. Mike Terry, Evan Ginzburg, and Scott Hudson will be back and we also may hear again from everyone's fave doctor, Mike Lano.

Arena Report is published bi-weekly at the cost of \$1.00 per issue. A number appears on your label indicating how many issues you have left on your sub. All subscriptions, renewals, letters, and results may be sent to Arena Report, P.O. Box 952547, Lake Mary, FL 32795-2547. Let's go Lakeland and what on paper looks to be a great WCW show.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING
Saturday, October 5, 1991
Lakeland Civic Center
Lakeland, FL

Tag Team Match

Young Pistols beat Thomas Rich & Terrence Taylor in 13:00. Pistols missed a flying tackle on Rich in what I thought was the finish. As all four were brawling, Armstrong hit Rich with a flying bodypress for the win. ** Pistols are good for an opener as they usually have good bouts.

2nd Match

P.N. News squashed Axl Rotten in 4:30. Rotten had no offense whatsoever. He looks like a poor man's Brian Knobbs. News won with the splash from the top rope. **

3rd Match

Big Josh used his axhandle and the butt drpp to pin Oz who looked absolutely terrible. I doubt the guy will make it in this biz. -* Time was 4:18.

4th Match

Van Hammer over Johnny B. Badd in 4:54. This Sammy Hagar look a like got no reaction at all. Offense was all Badd as Hammer can't do anything.. Teddy Long jumped on Hammer's back for the dq. After the bell, Hammer gave Long a slingshot suplex. * for Badd. He tried to carry it.

Tag Team Match

The Freebirds beat Steve Austin & Tony Mella in 12:15. Mella who is a local subbed for Diamond Studd who is once again bothered by a bad knee. Birds are over big as faces but they were popular as heels anyway. Garvin is looking old. Mella and Austin collided and Steve nailed his partner and left him alone to get double DDT'd and pinned. 3/4*

6th Match

Bobby Eaton small packaged Richard Morton in 10:32. Not bad but they took too long to get it going. Eaton took a great bump out of the ring off of a kneelift. Some good near falls before the finish. **

Dave, Hope you enjoy this sample to decide to subscribe. Ran

World Tag Team Championship

Arn Anderson & Larry Zbyszko retained the belts by beating Dustin Rhodes & Mike Graham in 13:21. Brian Pillman who was supposed to be Dustin's partner came out with his arm in a sling. He tore a muscle and will be out a couple of weeks. Heels did good mic work ending with, "The Buccanee suck." I don't think even Florida people can argue that remark. Very good match. Dustin started a great babyface chant of "Larry Sucks." Graham juiced big from a title belt shot from Arn. Two guys on the card juice and one is a front office guy. Graham had Larry rolled up but Arn came in and gave him a spinebuster for the win. ***3/4

8th Match

Barry Windham beat Mr. Hughes in 6:33. Barry took some good bumps in carrying this to a decent bout. Hughes bent over for a backdrop but Barry grabbed him by the head and drove him into the mat and scored the pin. ***

World Heavyweight Championship

Lex Luger pinned Ron Simmons in 11:01. Crowd was dead in the middle. Race posted Ron and rolled him back in the ring where Luger pinned him. Why are they doing Simmons-Luger at the PPV when they are doing this shit three weeks before. Way to sell a PPV. Why as why? **

Tag Team Match

Rick Steiner & Sting beat Abdullah the Butcher & Cactus Jack in 10:42. This wasn't a match, it was a war. The best brawl I've seen in a long time. They fought back to the dressing room and came back three times. Cactus was holding Sting and Abby went to hit Stinger with the bamboo stick but Sting ducked and Jack got pinned. Abby juiced big time. Sting gave Jack a suplex on the cement floor at the alleyway. They dumped Jack in a garbage can and rolled him out. Abby attacked photog Bill Otten in what I thought was a work as he slammed his head into the ringside table and Jack dumped the table on top of him. The day after I found out it was a shoot and Bill's girlfriend wanted to clock me at the arena because while they were attending to him, I was laughing my head off. Awesome stuff. ****1/4

NOTES

Crowd was 2,100 which isn't bad considering Vince was in Tampa (30 miles west) the night before with a crowd of 4,200....Tully Blanchard was at the card. Just as an observer. Wonder if he tried any preaching on the roided guys....Missy Hyatt was at the show with some WCW camera guys. They were taping some "Fan Scan" segments. After the show, we found them in the lobby still taping some. I weaseled my way up front and after she asked these two kids a question she was looking for another interviewee. I said, "Hey Missy, how about getting a newsletter guy in there?" She looked at me and said, "Yeah, right." When I persisted she said, "Come on in but don't let anyone know I knew." The director echoed her remark. Is the brass there paranoid or what? One of the questions she asked me was what I thought about Lex Luger's new attitude. Okay guys, I sold out. I figured this answer gave me the best shot of getting on TV. "I think it's great. His change of attitude has made him a winner. Lex Luger is the true REAL world champion." I told you I sold out.

Ramblings

Looks like the WWF will be full of changes the end of November. You can almost etch this in stone (notice I said almost). Looks like Undertaker will beat Hogan for the belt at Survivors because of Flair being involved in the finish. This will lead to another PPV for December 3rd coming from San Antonio which will not be announced until the night of Survivors. That one will see Hogan and Flair square off with Sid Justice taking the belt from Undertaker. I'm really tired of Titan using heels as an interim champ. This 2nd PPV will supposedly help alleviate some money problems in Titan. After watching Hulk Hogan on Arsenio Hall Friday night, I'm wondering how long Hulk will be around. It was an interview in which he came off more likeable than any other interview. He emphasized about his family being #1 and even told of his old ring names. I could see Vince cringing on that one. I just can't see Flair-Hogan at Wrestlemania next year. I would bet on Justice-Flair. And if that's the case, you won't see me in Indianapolis next year....There is a good chance Jerry Lawler will work some dates for WCW. He'll still work Memphis but he have a series of title shots vs. Luger....Madussa Micelli on the way into WCW. Heard they'll use her like Sherri. Not sure who they are putting her with....Van Vader due back next month....Mike Graham on the way out of the office as well. The Tampa Sportatorium is opening back up and there is talk that the old Florida office will open up again which is where Graham could go. There are so many groups running out of Tampa using all the same wrestlers, why don't the money guys just combine resources and run one hell of a promotion?....WWF in Tampa

STRICTLY BUSINESS



... Jeff Siegel

Well, as the business of professional wrestling becomes more and more just that -- a business, perhaps it's only fitting that a column comes along that takes a look at pro grappling from a more business-oriented angle. And while my MBA in Marketing from a relatively small Midwestern school can't quite compare with Vince Junior's alleged MBA from one of the Ivy League's best, perhaps I can nevertheless shed some light on the aspects of "the business" that have heretofore gone pretty much unreviewed.

So, with that in mind, here's what you won't find in "Strictly Business" when it occasionally graces the pages of Arena Report: reported salary figures and/or negotiations, contract specifications, and anything even remotely related to "who's considering jumping *where* and *why*". Instead, you'll find a little bit of Marketing & Management 101, some analysis -- hopefully insightful -- that incorporates a "real world" business approach, and, I suspect, a healthy portion of opinion as well.

Without further ado then, and to better convey what the flavor of this column is all about, we begin with a trio of news items that have come across the wires of late -- each of which has a side that certainly qualifies as "Strictly Business"...

- Some of Vince Junior's alleged comments to the "sheet press" during their recent tour of Titan Towers are almost as absurd as Jim Hellwig's salary demands. Specifically, I'm talking about his remarks to the effect that "If business is good for me, it'll be good for you boys. So c'mon -- help me out and tone down some of the lambasting". Somehow, I can't imagine IBM asking *The Wall Street Journal* not to report on bad earnings, or better yet, not to investigate and subsequently uncover the financial misdoings of a top executive.

Sorry Vince, but it's quite the contrary: if business is bad for Titan, that's just as much of a story for Meltzer, Keller, Lemieux and their followers to report on. All this doubletalk about the sheet editors "biting the hand that feeds them" is pure nonsense -- the sheets' ability to flourish will be no more affected by an economic downturn in the wrestling business than *The New York Times* circulation is affected by a downturn in the overall economy. Bank on it.

- At the same time, let's give Vince some credit where credit is due. Bringing in Ric Flair and the expectation that he's going to begin marketing a more athletic, "wrestling-oriented" product is a testament to his wily understanding of the marketplace in which he competes.

Nothing and no one stays hot forever. Think for a moment about a trendy restaurant in your own hometown that was red-hot a couple of years ago (when you had to wait two hours to get a table), that's now either out-of-business or undergoing a radical change in personality. Mega-hot superstars like Madonna and Michael Jackson cool off after time, too. And even The Simpsons and the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles -- last year's darlings of the merchandising world -- have lost a lot of their zing of late.

Well, the trials and tribulations of the steroid scandal and the hardcores' personal preferences notwithstanding, Vince realizes that it's time for a change -- before the business gets too stale to salvage. And "wow-ing" his mainstream American audience with the new style that Ric Flair personifies is as good a way as any to re-ignite the general public's interest in professional wrestling.

- Finally, let's tie it all together with a brief analysis of the much-discussed sagging state of the wrestling industry. It's no secret to anyone who reads *The Observer* that the business has experienced its ups and downs over the past three or four decades. The advent of television in the fifties and the arrival of cable TV in the eighties, for example, are two easily identifiable events that coincided with respective booms for the grappling biz. Well, those qualified as "ups", and what we're witnessing now qualifies as one of the "downs". Not to worry, though -- it really is in keeping with "the laws of the universe".

You see, the textbooks call it econometrics, or *the study of economic activity* -- and you can actually apply it to businesses of all types, shapes, and sizes...even professional wrestling. It states that every business, every industry follows a cycle that is marked by fluctuations which are pretty easy to document. Simply put, there are periods of expansion followed by periods of contraction followed again by periods of expansion, and on and on and on. No doubt about it -- wrestling has expanded for the past six years or so. Now, it's contracting -- and that's pretty much the way it's got to happen. The airlines are going through it now, for instance. And the fast-food industry, after years of phenomenal growth, is only a year or two away from a period of contraction as well.

The bottom line is this: pro wrestling will someday, once again, see a period of prosperity and growth. For sure, it may be an expansion very different from those in the past (pay-per-view business as opposed to arena biz or cable TV ratings, perhaps). In the meantime, however, just like other industries, it will be a case of "survival of the fittest". And that, with all due respect to Dustin, is only natural.

UNDER THE MUSHROOM
WITH
KLON

Greetings "AR" readers from the House of KLON. Enclosed in this issue you will find the 1991 version of Arena Reports reader survey. I would like to ask each and every one of you to not only complete the survey but to provide comments from both you heart and your head. Whether you enjoy my particular column or not, I would very much like to see Ron Lemieux reach his goals concerning this newsletter. During the last year or so we have seen various sheets become dust in the wind. I will especially miss Brian Tramel's Riot but each sheet that has become a memory is a loss to every one of us. The demise of many sheets may have helped the subscriber base of others but it is a loss nevertheless. Not ~~that~~ the old editor Lemieux is thinking of giving up the ghost but I think he needs a wee bit of nudging to stir him into going weekly. Oh by the way, Ron never has any idea what I write any particular column about so he has no idea that I'm writing on this matter. Next month we shall return to black holes, sunnealism, bar-b-q, and cosmology.

As I write this (10-7-91, 3AM) the WCW rumor mill is running wild with new names of victims of Jim Hend's Sanitarium Of Terminal Wackyness. The thought of Jenny Lawler coming in whets my appetite for those hard-core interviews that he is the master of. Ric Flair is more of a "personality" than a worker (but he tries on occasion). I would be lying if I said the thought of Rick and Scott Steiner versus Tenny Gordy and Dr Death did not whet my desires for action. But none of the aforementioned names can change the biggest problem in WCW, the management. With Jim Hend in charge we can only expect more of the same, a convoluted mess. The notables whom have left during the last year include Mike Rotundo, Sld Vicious, the Nasty Boys all of whom the WWF has used prominently. We are all very aware the brilliant way Ric Flair is being used. I have one final thought on this matter to present to you. Randy Savage has given notice and Roddy Piper would probaly leave tomorrow if the right Hollywood offer came along. Can you imagine turning on Superstars one weekend and seeing Vince standing alongside the incredible Jim Connette? No Way, you say? Who would have believed the current Ric Flair storyline 6 months ago? Jim Connette is witty beyond compare, & an incredible tv presence (remember those tv promos a couple of years ago? I could go on and on about Connette but I'm out of space.

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NOTES FROM THE PARKING LOT

by,
Marianne Ryan

Imagine if you will, the downstairs section of a seedy bar. There are guys in their 30's with hair halfway down their backs and leather jackets covered with chains. The girls are all in short skirts and high heels. The band is playing covers of Deep Purple and Ozzy Osborne. But wait, what do I see in the midst of all the smoke, an equal amount coming from smokers as from the fog machine. Why, it's a man in beige dress pants and shiny leather loafers. He's wearing a button-down shirt, and only two buttons are undone. He has a gold chain around his neck, and hanging from that is a gold dollar bill sign. Why yes, it is-but no, it can't be. Wait another minute, who is that dancing with him? The woman in the tattered jeans, bustier and white jacket. Could it be? It is. It is none other than the Million Dollar Man and Sensational Sherri rockin' and rollin' to the heavy metal sounds of Doc Hammer at T.A. Verna's in Milwaukee. And it's a good thing we were here, because one of the Beverly Brothers was arrested at the other bar the guys went to.

At those Milwaukee matches, they were supposed to announce that Survivor Series would be held at the Bradley Center, but instead the next match will be November 17. I'm not sure if it has any connection, but Bradley Center management was none too pleased with the condition the backstage area was left in after the last matches. One person (not a wrestler) had brought all kinds of people backstage and they had left all kinds of garbage, including a numerous amount of beer cans. Back in the dressing rooms, beer bottles were all over. Whether or not this had anything to do with it or not, SS is now scheduled for Detroit's Joe Louis Arena.

Randy Savage made a surprise appearance at SportsFest in suburban Villa Park last week. SportsFest brought together stars from baseball, football, basketball, hockey and golf. Randy was the guest at the Super Star Stage. He wasn't going to sign an autograph for me at first, but finally relented. I guess this means Elizabeth has recovered sufficiently to be left alone while he travels.

I saw my very first USWA live match the other day. It was in Louisville, and after this, I don't think I will ever go there again. I got completely lost trying to find Louisville Gardens. I had less trouble finding my way around Toronto. I ended up about 12 miles outside of town, then when I finally figured out where I had to go, I ended up driving through what had to be the worst part of town. I even got lost trying to find a place to park. Downtown Louisville is full of one way streets. And the police down there drive Camaros.

Once I finally found the place, I had to deal with not knowing the wrestlers. Bill Dundee walked right by me, but until his match, I wasn't sure if that was him or not. The crowd couldn't have been more than 200 or 300. But the show was pretty decent. They could do without miking the ring. These guys made more noise just walking across the ring than Earthquake does jumping up and down. They also seemed to take a lot of breaks. They took one after the National Anthem, another after the third match, and still another after the fifth match. It seemed almost every match involved a title of some kind. And it wasn't obvious who was the heel and who was the face. Both guys would get cheered or booed.

The one lasting impression I did get was the incredible difference between this and the big time. During intermissions, Jerry Lawler goes out to have his picture taken with the fans (for a small price of course). Some got to hold his belt, others got to wear his crown. Try imagining any WWF wrestler doing this. Quite a few were still there to sign autographs during the second, rather third, intermission. On top of that, they had driven up from Memphis that day.

Anyway, on a final note, in reply to those who believe they know how my dog got his name, let me assure you that Frankie Steiner Meister is not named after someone's bird, a WCW tag team, or a cheap beer brewed by Miller. Talk to you next month.

MORE LIVE REPORTS

Championship Wrestling Federation

Tampa, FL

September 26, 1999

1) Sonny T. beat The Cruiser in 6:02 when Cruiser missed a charge in the corner and Sonny pinned him. Cruiser does a Big Josh gimmick. He wrestled with his fly wide open the whole match. $\frac{1}{2}$ * 2) Jim "The Animal" Cooper beat Charlie Braden in 7:03. Good comedy with Cooper who does a nutso gimmick managed by Paul Sampson. When the bell rang, he locked up with the referee. Ref took a bump, Charlie picked up Cooper for a slam but Sampson came off the ropes and pressed Cooper's back and the Animal fell on top for the pin. $\frac{1}{2}$ * 3) Coconut Kid pinned Man Mountain Brody in 6:55. I kid you not. Brody weighs a legit 580 pds. When I went to talk to Bruce Ginevan who was shooting the bouts with his video camera, he said, "This guy is disgusting". About sums it up. He's bigger than Abby, way bigger. Finish saw Tommy Starr run in the ring and smack Brody over the head with a board and Kid pinned him. Brody juiced. * for finish. 4) Debbie Malenko small packaged Penelope Paradise in 10:28 of the best match on the card. How do I say this without getting in trouble. If I was single, Malenko could have my heart. Enough of the Tiger Beat crap. The first 6 minutes were UWF Japan style. Good mat moves and stiff kicks to the midsection by both. I don't know why Penelope hasn't worked Japan. Her gimmick would get over and she can work. Finish was botched as it looked like it was supposed to be a double pin with Debbie lifting her shoulder before the three but they couldn't get in the right position. *** 5) Mohamed Studd beat Phil Donavon via forfeit in 3:57. Donavon separated his shoulder legit so they had to stop the bout. Dud. 6) Tommy Star & Cody Wade beat Kenny Kendall & Jerry Flynn in 19:05. Wade was a sub for Tom Sawyer. He ignored heat like crazy. Who knows why. Financial advisor Ronald J. Niemi II used his briefcase right in front of the ref to deck Kendall and the ref counted three. $\frac{1}{2}$ * 7) Masked Superstar & Hurricane Walker lost to Ron Slinker & Tex Sallinger in 18:54. Jim Herd could have booked this better. Tommy Star who books this group had it all booked but while his bout was going on, Slinker changed the whole thing. It was supposed to be a single bout with Superstar (Bob Cook) vs. Sallinger (worked as Dennis Knight for PWF and Leatherface in Memphis) and Supe was the heel but halfway through the bout, Hurricane Walker comes out and wants to team with Cook. Now Walker is a face so Superstar was actually turned. Top that with the point that other than Cook (Who is this group's best worker.) the other three couldn't work to save their lives. Slinker doesn't belong anywhere near a ring. Sallinger hit Walker with an object to score the pin. Dud.....NOTES: The American Legion Hall where this card was held is the epitome of an independant site for wrestling. IT's classic. The ceiling is so low that you can't do any moves off the top rope. As a matter of fact, during one bout, a wrestler brought another in the hard way from the ring apron and his feet crashed the ceiling tile.....Jap photog Bill Otten a gory hound as he was in the back taking pictures of Brody bleeding all over while his valet attended to him.....Got to talk a bit to Debbie Malenko Very quiet and shy. A wholesome image. Sort of like mine. Now I know why Doc Lano talks about her so much.....Quote of the night goes to Chris Qualmann who asked when he saw what was happening at the establishment we went after the show, "Why don't they get arrested?" It didn't seem to bother him that much though. That's after it took him an hour and a half to find where Lucky disappeared to.....

International Wrestling Federation

Orlando, FL

October 2, 1991

1) Hollywood Rick Diamond pinned Dennis Allen in 9:25 after hitting Dennis with his playtex glove. Allen executed a great fist drop from the top rope ala Jerry Lawler. Rick hit Allen with a good chair shot. * 2) Dynamite Express over the Nuclear Assassins in 15:42 with a double mexican roll. To set up the finish, the Express delivered a good double dropkick from the top ropes on each of the asses. Mike DiBacco and Nuke Ass Bob make a better Ass team than Nukes Bob and Joe. $\frac{1}{2}$ * 3) Chubby M.C. beat Stomper via DQ when Nasty Ronnie interfered at 5:28. Ronnie chided me with, "You're just a sheet writer, ha I said it again". in reference to last issue. He hit me with that damn riding crop again. Chubby dropped the base on Ronnie after the bell. $\frac{1}{2}$ * 4) Cliff Anderson made Al Hardiman submit to the figure four leglock in 7:33. Cliff came to the ring with the IWF TV title which baffled me and I had no idea what to announce. (See "Ramblings") Some decent out of the ring moves. Hardiman just doesn't cut it for me. $\frac{1}{2}$ * 5) Long Riders and the Bad Boys went to a double count out at 23:03. Boys execute great tag moves. Both teams looked good. Kip Winchester did this great move where he does the Flair ~~back~~ flip over the buckles, leaps over the top rope and back into the ring and bulldogged Billy Brooks. After the double count out and Kip had went to the dressing room, the Boys jumped Brett Calt and Blair & Brooks used chairs until Kip came back to even things up. $\frac{1}{2}$ * for match but *** for post match stuff. 6) Thunder & Lightning and Mr. Terrific (Tim Parker and half of the Heartbreaker and The Possessor went to a double DQ at 11:41. Big Till was in New York due to a death in the family. Decent match with Parker looking extremely good.

The IWF lost their virginity as Parker juiced which was the first blood spilled in IWF rings. It was from stiff chair shots that T & L delivered to Parker and Nasty Ned (Possessor). Wonder if T & L would take the same. *** 7) Lou Perez beat Mondo Kleen via DQ in 15:42. This was for Mondo's IWF Title. Mondo has a great gimmick and I love his accent. At one point he missed a kneedrop from the top rope that he went up very high for. Ref John Hogan took a bump after being hit by Kleen. Other ref Rick Bragg ran in and counted three as Lou small packaged Kleen for three but Hogan came to and DQ'd Mondo. Better bout than I expected. **

(continued from page 2)
on 10/4 saw Jake Roberts get DQ'd against Sid. Fans were 50/50 for both.... On that same date for Malenko's UWF, Big V beat Cody Wade for the Southern title.... Latest WWF tapings in Wheeling, WV saw (highlights) Sid Justice beat Undertaker via DQ. Sid was to wrestle masked El Diable but Paul Bearer and Callous came to the ring and offered Diablo money to take his place. Within minutes, the masked guy jumped Sid and tore the mask off to reveal Jake. Davey Boy Smith beat Warlord via count out. Virgil beat Ted DiBiase via DQ when IRS interfered but Boss Man came down to even things out. Roddy Piper bulldogged Pat Tanaka in :34. Poor Pat. He later lost a six man with the Beverly Brothers vs. Kerry, Snuka, and Valentine and got beat up by Beau & Blake afterwards. The Mountie attacked Bret Hart with his zipper before their match and left him laying. Ric Flair pinned Roddy Piper with his feet on the ropes in a dark match. Didn't he leave WCW to get away from that cheap crap.... Starcade has been confirmed for 12/29 at the Scope in Norfolk, VA.... Quick On The Stick Dept: John Lanigan from Pittsburgh copped front row seats to Wrestlemania at \$125.00 a pop.... One of the dark matches set for the 11/13 taping in New Haven in Flair vs. Bret Hart.... How about Louie Fortuna for fan of the year. The guy will hit 4 WWF shows in 5 days: 11/10 in Boston, the 12th in New Haven for the tapings, the 13th for Springfield tapings, and a house show in Providence on the 14th. What a way to spend a vacation Lou.... After the Center Stage tapings a couple of weeks ago, Harley Race and Butch Reed (was visiting the boys) cleared some tables from a bar and started shooting. From all reports, Race kicked his butt. The old codger still has it in him.... Looks like Paul Roma is history.... Do you think I should have read Steve Beverly's three part series on newsletters a bit better? After making the remark that Joel Goodhart probably hadn't talked to any of the four guys he announced for his show in January (Williams & Gordy vs. Kroffat & Furnas), I received a call from Joel himself telling me they were all confirmed. Teach me to shoot from the mouth won't it?.... Speaking of shooting from the mouth: Vic Stanley conducted an interview with me for Rod's Reflector. I believe it will be a three or four parter. I didn't hold back in this sucker. I just let loose. If you want to see a different side of Ron Lemieux, check it out. It's a dollar per issue and you can order from Rodney Leighton, R.R. #3, Pugwash, Nova Scotia, Canada BOK L10.... An independant northeast promoter wants to do a PPV next year but with no restrictions. 3 guesses who it is.... Oz and El Gigante shooting an episode of "Swamp Thing" this week at Universal Studios.... How's this for a dream tag team: Cactus Jack and Nasty Ned Brady. Call them the Kamikaze Connection.... Think the Paul E. and Missy segments where they're looking for where the Chamber of Horrors is being built are hoots.. WWF doing some local ads for Champions Rent-All here in Orlando. Bret Hart, Hacksaw Duggan, and the Boss Man are included.... Cliff Anderson once again the IWF TV champion due to another office title change. Can't wait to see a real one.... SAPW lost Tv in Charlotte. Manny Fernandez and Wahoo McDaniel had a falling out and Wahoo walked out. Vince Torelli also quit to work PWF in Japan.... Fantastics (Bobby & Jackie Fulton) quit as well.... Suncoast Pro Wrestling taped on 9/28 in Manatee with the top two bouts seeing Big V & Gator Gilmore beating Charlie Fields & Giant Outlaw. Also, Jumbo Berretta defeated Masked Superstar (Bob Cook) by submission to win the Florida title.... Was that sheetdom's Lance Levine who was recently quoted in Joe Bob Briggs newsletter We Are The Weird?.... CWF returns to the American Legion Post 139 with a main event of Tex Sallenger vs. Hurricane Walker with Slinker barred from ringside.... There will be a benefit card for Chris "The Doctor" Proctor on November 8 at the Ruskin Recreation Center. Proctor was stabbed a couple of weeks ago when he tried to stop someone from stealing his car.... 9/28 in Boston drew just under 10,000 to see Undertaker lose to Sid Justice in a casket match. The return on 11/10 is Piper-Flair.... Scott will probably cover this in his column but look for Gilbert to challenge Lawler in a GWF champ vs. Unified champ. That's as far as the Jarrett-Pedicino relationship will go.... To those that sent results, they are appreciated but there was no room this issue. I'm sure you rather ramblings instead anyway. They'll return next issue so keep them coming. It's only the second time I've had to cut them. To all my columnists and the people I trade with, please take part in the survey. The free issue don't mean anything to you but I'd like your input as well. See all of you in two. Will have details of the annual in the first issue of November. Until 10/21, see ya!

Ron

SCOTT HUDSON'S.....

GEORGIA WRESTLING JOURNAL

THE GLOBALDOME (Dallas, Texas) 10-04-91. GWF TELEVISION TAPINGS FOR AIR THE WEEKENDS OF OCTOBER 19 AND OCTOBER 26, 1991. Major League Wrestling (10-19-91): The Soultaker over The Avenger..Scott Anthony over Rick Garren..John Tatum over The Rattlesnake..Chris Walker & Steve Simpson over Black Bart & Tug Taylor..Jeff Gaylord over Sweet Daddy Falcone..Major League Wrestling (10-26-91): Eddie Gilbert over John Tatum..The Soultaker and Brian Lee in a draw..The Handsome Stranger over Mike Davis..Eddie Gilbert over The Handsome Stranger..GWF Main Events (10-26-91): Chris Walker & Steve Simpson over The Dogs of War..Brien Lee over Mike Stetson..Terry Daniels over Ed Robinson..Black Bart over Tug Taylor..Gary Young & Wild Bill Irwin & The Rattlesnake and John Tatum & Rod Price & Sweet Daddy Falcone in a No Contest..NEWS AND NOTES: Taylor and Bart broke-up following their loss to Walker & Simpson on the 10-19 "Major League" show. This led to a Bart babyface turn and a match between the two on the 10-26 "Main Events" show..The Television Title Mini-tournament takes place on the 10-26 "Major League" show. The tourney is set-up as Craig Johnson and GWF Commissioner Max Andrews on the stage drawing six names out of a box. Following that, Scott Anthony hits the stage and announces that, as he has run The Handsome Stranger "out of the sport", he should be allowed to take Stranger's place in the tourney. Commissioner Andrews debates about it and allows Anthony into the field of six. As Stranger's match is being introduced, Anthony comes to ringside. Stranger then appears and chases Anthony away. Eddie Gilbert defeats Stranger in the tourney finals. Their was a near fall in the bout that recalled the Patriot / Al Perez finish. As Gilbert is in the ropes and Stranger is laid out, Anthony shoves a dazed Gilbert onto Stranger who then small packages him for a two count. The fibish was classic Eddie Gilbert. Following a ref bump, Stanger is laid out. Anthony puts a gimmick in Stranger's hand as Eddie falls flat, in a great job of feigning a knockout punch that never happened. Anthony calls the ref's attention to the "unconscious" Gilbert and the foreign object in Stranger's hand. Watch for Eddie laughing & giggling behind the ref's back as Anthony explains what happened. Stranger is disqualified and Eddie wins the title. Gilbert then flew to Memphis to work WMC-TV Saturday morning. He challenged Jerry Lawler to a Title vs. Title (Unified World vs. GWF TV) for this past Monday in Memphis. As the 10-26 "Major League" show closes, Joe Pedicino runs to the interview stage where Johnson is talking to Gilbert and Anthony. Pedicino announces that he had just secretly recorded a conversation between Anthony and The Boss and that he "knows who The Boss is"..Rod Price's "legit" knee injury was revealed as a work during the 10-26 "Main Events" show main event..One Man Gang is set to debut on 10-11..Other names are being talked about coming in, no confirmations..ATT:750

CENTER STAGE (Atlanta, Georgia) 09-24-91. WCW TV TAPINGS FOR AIR THE WEEK-END OF OCTOBER 12, 1991. World Championship Wrestling: Brian Pillman & Big Josh over Thomas Rich & Terrence Taylor..Johnny B. Badd over John Faulkner..Steve Austin over Todd Champion..The Wild Eyed Young Southern Pistol Boys over Bob Cook & Mike Thor..Bobby Eaton over Rip Rogers..Bill Kazmeir over Abdullah The Butcher..Axl Rotten over Joey Maggs..The Enforcers over The Screaming Eagles..NEWS AND NOTES: Eagles are The Freebirds..Rotten did not look good in his WCW TV debut..Kazmeir is left laying by Abdullah The Butcher and Cactus Jack..ATT800

THE LAST WORD...**WRESTLING DIVISION**

	W	L	Pct.	GR
Atlanta Hawks	24	67	.26	1
Los Angeles Lakers	1	1	.50	1

x—clinched division title

..OH, HELL YES!!!

I don't want to hurt rival promoter Dennis Coraluzzo's feelings, as it was he who brought Terry Funk back for us; but Joel Goodhart put on one of the best Indie Shows I've ever seen, that came close to rivaling FMW for crowd brawls and NJPW for pinfall reaction. I also survived USAIR's flight 1936 whose midsection cracked opened and made an emergency landing with the pilot's equipment frozen (climate control demolished-the moisture inside the plane actually froze into snow!) After my brush with death, it was nice to see Abdullah buy me breakfast and refer to buffet tongs as a "gimmick" as in: "Mike, hand me that gimmick to reach the bacon!" These guys can't shake the inside lingo- but we have secret words in dentistry- mostly of the Latin variety, not carry. The Abdominizer admitted to holding poker chips in his forehead gashes and hit on me for a loan Sunday at the airport to which I laughed him off.

Many of us oldtimers love Sheik Farhut. I ditched good pals Jeff Osborne and Chris Martin of Indiana's CWN in favor of riding shotgun with Sheik in back and nephew Sabu driving. While on the freeway, Sheik asked me about a loose tooth and I turned to look at him and he screamed at me not to turn around while talking to him since Sheik "can't talk." I gave it back to him and told him we were on a freeway and that he's an old fart that hardly anyone but me remembers. Giving it right back earned the respect of this beloved, sweet guy. He still looks great (albeit some minor skin cancer removed from his nose) and blew me away in the d.r. shaving any exposed hair with a dry razor! Ouch and Itch!! He is keeping moder in his reported training of superstars Sabu and Rob Zakowski. Both are Japan-bound and Sheik has more greats coming out of his factory. Our Sheik also sported a small ponytail that he showed off to Kevin and Nancy Sullivan. And it wasn't just a New Japan night- Masa Fuchi, Richard Slinger and AJPW superstar Misawa (Tiger Mask 2) were there looking over future talent. They've been on a 10 day tour of Memphis, Global, etc for new guys. Dusty's best ally is Abby- he swears Virg can turn it around- because he's the master at timing. When the time is ready, he'll reappear (ugh). When the time is ready, Baba wants to bring Cactus back to All Japan." Here's results:

1. Abby got them to barely bleed so as not to spoil the main, as Tony Stetson won a last to bleed wins a big battle royal. Only Sabu bled buckets, and he dazzled everyone. Gorgeous heel valet Peaches threw catsup on some face near the end so the ref falsely dq'd him amidst humor.

2. Tri-States Champ who dropped me off at Ribet's, and runs a movie house-J.T.Smith kept his title against D.C. Drake. 3. The Blackhart's debuted, winning the tag titles defeating Hotbody and Winters (accomp'd by Woman, Don E. Allen and some guy in a leg cast) Luna was terrific and the BH's didn't miss any moves in a great brawl. ***1/2 for the outside the ring action. 4. I asked Owen to grade this- we both agreed on a **** carrying as he pinned NJPW prelim great Takayuki Iizuka after about 20 minutes. Joel had Calgary's NJPW rep, Tokyo Joe come out but fans chanted "we want Flair" at him. Equally unclassy chants of "Egg Foo Yung" & "Chop Suey" at Iizuka along with "boring." This was going to have to be a quick education class by Hart. "We had to go on way earlier since Eddie Gilbert had trans problems & was late. T.I. & I joked we didn't even have a second to plan anything out, so we were going to highspot to hell. Before wrestling, I didn't know if I'd get into it on this type of blood show. Also I was getting in trouble with Wanz, arriving 3 days late for a German tour and I didn't know if this was even panning out. And the 2nd rope broke so we cut down on the airflights. But we had a helluva match and the fans reacted properly the last 2 minutes--stomping feet and cheering at all the near falls. The enzuiguri I gave him was the loudest pop I've heard from a crowd outside New Japan." The crowd gave a standing ovation for many minutes after the two shook hands and hugged. It was historic emotion of the Japan variety. Doug Gilbert never made it, so BB Bigelow never came off. More emotion: Eddie got on the mike and called Cactus a coward for leaving TWA to go to WCW "since we both had the chance at the same time. And you can tell Jim Herd to kiss my ass!" Crowd somewhat into Madusa's stiff kicks on Luna & Luna's dives as both were in the ring for what seemed like forever before CJ and EG locked up outside and over the steel barriers. While they brawled, Madusa pinned Luna and began shaving sidehairs as Blackhearts jumped in. Cactus and Eddie symbolly fought together, backed into each other as

friends and Jack got on the mike and saluted Gilbert by saying "You're the reason (because you and I had such great matches, WCW picked me up) I'm leaving." It was an emotionally satisfying end to a great feud for now, and more class for Philly. Speaking of class, attorney Bob Barnette, Philly's own brother of love Frank Chile, fellow Japanster Scott Goldstein collectively know everything and everyone in the biz. Funk and Sullivan had a *** match inside the ring and a ****1/4 brawl outside- in the stands, onto tables, with chairs and hammers, all over. Terry was having such fun and cheered so heavily he began cracking his own skull with a steel trashcan in joy. Everyone- let's watch his new tv show and KEEP IT ON! It begins as a midseason replacement amidst a boring fall lineup. Order of face cheers were: Owen, Terry and Abby winning it. I think both Funk-Sullivan in a battle of NWA former booking team members and Sheik-Abby were double dq's. Sheik entered the cage with Sabu in glorious gold and purple robes, wearing his old US belt (like Flair, he OWNS da belt- therefore, as Abby said, he never had to do a clean 1-2-3). He used the loaded pencil on the ref inside, who was carted away as Abby entered to thunderous cheers. The two fought only near the exiting door and spilled outside and a * match turned into a ***** brawl as Sullivan, Funk, Cactus and Bigelow got into it. Abby did bellyflops and everything in true AJPW style in the crowd, over railings, and every pairing of all these Wrestling Then and Now Greats occurred, as Sully appeared to aid Abby against Sheik. Abby worked over and kicked the s- out of one of Goodhart's people. In fact Sully and Funk attacked Shun Yamaguchi (photog bro of Wally) and even Jimmy Suzuki and I got "roughed" up. No respect for Sheik as so many called him an old man and yelled "homina, homina" that I felt bad. Sheik has had that character since 1952 for god sake (as Sheik d' Araby and later Sheik of Araby with former wife "salima-not the sandwich food") and deserves respect for a lifetime of contributions (I'd paydays not included). We missed hitting Ribit's before it closed because Sheik took hours before he washed all the blood off his face. He is so fragile, shaking hands with Cactus caused a finger to bleed over his infamous white leisure suit. He also has a loose crowned molar he showed me we need to take out. But first, Abby and Cactus come to the office for dental work Sept 28-29 that I'll film for the tv show. Credit class in TWA having all ringside cops and attendants wearing gloves as well as d.r. doctors to attend to all the bleeding. I think that shows Philly does have great class- and with promoters like Goodhart and Dennis Coraluzzo; the Tri-States area is the Tokyo of America.

ARENA REPORT SURVEY

9

Please rank in order from 1 through ~~nine~~ the following sections of "AR" (1 being your favorite column, 2 your second fave, 3 your third fave etc.) Please be honest. Like last year, these results will be for my eyes only. I want to keep a handle on what you readers like and don't like to see if I need to make any changes. Thanks for your time and don't forget, you get a free issue added onto your sub if you fill this out.

Rank

Live Reports
by Ron Lemieux

Ramblings

"A Piece of My Mind"
by Evan Ginzburg

"Georgia Wrestling Journal"
by Scott Hudson

"Under The Mushroom"
by Klon

"Notes From The Parking Lot"
by Marianne Ryan

"It's My 2-Cents"
by Mike Terry

Correspondent's Corner

Letters To "AR"

On a scale of 1-10 (Ten being you love it and 1 being you hate it) how would you rate the following special columns in "AR":

Mike Lano's Guest Columns

K.C. O'Connor's Guest columns

Jeff Siegel's "Strictly Business" Column which appears in this issue

Additional comments:

NAME (Optional, but if you want your free issue, I'll need it.)

Send all surveys to Arena Report, P.O. Box 952547, Lake Mary, FL 32795-2547.